3: Hiscocks G-4, 5 (1946-1949) 1953 EK1 Austria EK1

185 387 markets, ammonium sulphate being more valuable and more suitable as a fertilizer for certain climates than ammonium nitrate.

185 398 The Steyr–Daimler–Puch Company was to be assisted in its programme of concentrating on products of special value to the national economy. The production of motor-cycles, cycles, and ball-bearings was continued, but at its main Steyr works the chief output consisted of diesel trucks, tractors, and omnibuses. An arrangement was made with the Italian Fiat Company by which Fiat passenger cars were to be assembled at Steyr, but no attempt was made to embark on the highly competitive passenger automobile production.

185 457 This comprehensive programme for the heavy industries involved a very large expenditure, and it was not surprising that in 1949 and 1950 nearly half the counterpart funds allotted for industrial purposes were devoted to the iron and steel industries alone.

Compared with the very significant help given under the European Recovery Programme to the heavy industries and the paper industry, Austria's other manufactures, most of which produced consumer goods, were, with the exception of textiles, largely neglected. Before the War about 75 per cent of Austria's industrial workers were employed in concerns in which there were less than 100 employees. Large enterprises played a bigger part in the country's post-War economy, but one of the reasons why the consumer-goods industries were neglected was that they were mostly still on a comparatively small scale. It was therefore difficult to organize assistance for them, and at the same time they lacked effective champions. Another reason was that they had, on the whole, suffered less from war damage. Apart from textiles, the manufactures that came off best were the electrical industries, which had lost a high proportion of their equipment from dismantling and had subsequently been nationalized. The ERP plan for Austria set out to raise the production of heavy industries in four years to 160 per cent of the 1937 level, while the target for consumer-goods industries was only 110 per cent of the 1937

433 raw iron was increased to about 1.04 million tons (as
[327] compared to 883,000 tons in the preceding year) and the raw steel production to about 1.03 million tons (as compared to 943,350 tons in the preceding year). This increase in production was possible through an increase in mining output, which amounted to approximately 2.37 million tons in 1951, as compared to 1.86 million tons
[398] in 1950. In the car industry, emphasis lay on the pro-
[392] duction of tractors, heavy trucks, busses and motorcycles. Agricultural machinery production was 119 per cent higher in 1950, lathes 110 per cent higher, ball-bearings 327 per cent, nails and screws 56 per cent more than in 1937. Although the electrical industry
[393] had suffered most seriously from war damages and dismantling, and although various raw materials, mostly of foreign origin (such as electric thin-gauge plate, copper, lead and various special products), could be obtained only with difficulty, the total production in 1950 was double that of 1937. This favorable development has continued in 1951 despite the shortage in raw
[387] materials. The chemical industry reached a capacity far higher than before the war in spite of extensive war damages. The Linz Stickstoffwerke, for example, not only cover the domestic demand for nitrogen but export considerable quantities of nitrate of lime and phosphate. Production of the latter amounted to 525 tons per month in 1938, during the first six months of 1951 it reached an average of 35,000 tons per month. The results in some finishing and consumer goods industries lagged behind, but even so substantial increases could be reached, especially in enterprises which are important
[289] for export (for example, the paper industry). By 1950 three per cent more paper was produced than in 1937.

[316] A remarkable increase was made in domestic soft coal mining. The production of electric current
[377] rose from 3,050 million kwh, 1946, to 4,911 million kwh, 1950, an increase of 61 per cent. This remarkable increase of capacity in 1950 is almost exclusively due to water power, the production of which increased to 690 million kwh. In extending and financing electric power projects differentiation must be made between finishing started projects (water-power plants, steam plants, transmission lines and transformers), new construction, international projects, export, and projects of local importance (see Wirtschaftsberichte No. 12, October 1951: "Oesterreichische Wasserkräfte als Beitrag zur Energieversorgung Westeuropas," by Erich Heller and Oscar Vas).